



## Be In Time

Do not sit until the cold blasts of winter forces you to lay in your winter goods. Come right along and do your buying now, while you can get full

## 40-inch Cantons

at 64 and 84cts.

Of exceptional quality, far better than you ever heard of at these prices; and ten inches wider. We have Cantons in abundance, from 5 to 12 1/2 yds. per yard, both in bleached and unbleached.

## Shoes.

## Underwear

## OUR READY-MADE WINTER UNDERWEAR

Is now coming in of rare quality for the price. We carry a full line in all grades for Men, Women and Children, and at prices in reach of all.

## Winter Wraps

We are daily expecting our Winter Wraps. It is a well known fact that we carry the best of our wraps shown or sold in this town, and we will soon be ready to offer you Jackets and Capes of all the newest shades and effects, also Shawls of all sizes and weights.

We will be receiving from now on a complete line of all Fall and Winter Goods, embracing the Newest and most Fashionable things in their respective lines.

# IRWIN & CO.

## CHRISTMAS GROCERIES

The Machinery season is now over, and I have turned my attention to my Grocery Department and filled my store-room full of fresh goods, including all sorts of Christmas goods, such as—

**Raisins, Cocoanuts, Figs, Citron, Currants, Nuts, Full Assortment of Candies, Staple and Fancy Groceries,** purchased in Philadelphia and other cities. It will pay you to see what a handsome stock of goods I am carrying before you go elsewhere.

We are still selling the best 16 ounce Fodder Yarn at 10 1/2 cts.

Remember that you can buy a Buggy, Carriage, or Harness as cheap as ever from me.

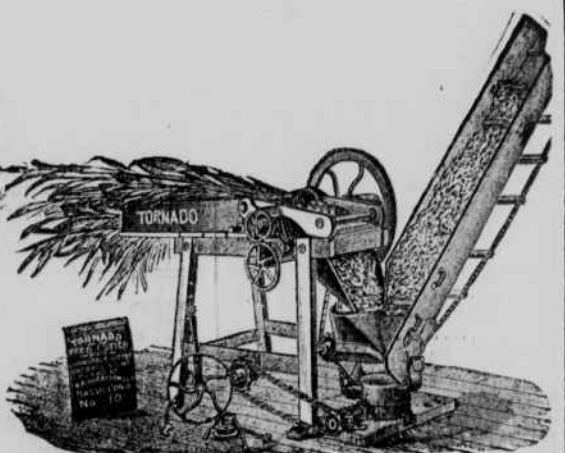
Call and see me at the old stand, corner of Main and Henry streets.

**W. F. PIERSON.**

Don't forget that we are still handling the

## Tornado FODDER CUTTER

And it has proved the most satisfactory piece of machinery ever introduced in this part of the country. The only objection we have to it is that we so seldom have a chance to sell repairs for it. We now have out and in use



of these cutters and every one of them has given perfect satisfaction. This is a big claim but we can prove it. It will save you more money in feeding than any machine on the market, as it enables you to feed your fodder so as to get the full benefit of it.

### Ask Any Of Your Neighbors

who have used it and they will tell you that we are not claiming too much for it. In connection with this we sell the Star Crusher and Power Combined. It furnishes power to cut your feed, saw your wood, or do any light work. It also crushes the corn and cob together, or will grind shelled corn, oats, barley, &c.

## OWEN HARDWARE CO.



### Blikensderfer TYPEWRITER

Latest and best. Prices, \$25 and \$50. Most complete, durable, speedy, and quickly mastered Typewriter made. The only high-grade machine at reasonable cost. Guaranteed for one year. In use by U. S. Government Departments, Western Union Telegraph Company, New York Central Railroad Company, and thousands of others.

MOORE BROS., General Agents, 918 F Street North west, Washington, D. C. 125 E. Fayette Street, Baltimore, Md. N. B. For information apply to C. R. K. VARNER, Lexington, Va.

European newspapers predict that grave complications will result from the United States' advent as a colonial power.

Note the change in Pierson's advertisement on this page.

The State ministerial conference in session at Anderson, Ind., has agreed that Indiana ministers will be bound not to marry any divorced people, no matter how prominent.

NOTE: Every man and woman in the United States interested in the Opium and Whisky habits to have one of my books on these diseases. Address B. M. Woolley, Atlanta, Ga. Box 99, and one will be sent you free.



WE PAY THE FREIGHT AND \$10.95 IS ALL IT COSTS. This 3-piece parlor suit, rocker, divan, and sofa, highly polished frame, finished mahogany, a upholstered in velvet or capotey, largest size, and suitable for any parlor in the land, \$10.95 and freight paid anywhere on earth. Such a bargain as this you have never seen before, and you are, and never will again, probably, reach the century mark which we hope you will. Further comment is unnecessary, except that if you want to know of thousands of such bargains, send for our catalogue, and if you want carpet at such prices as most dealers can't buy for, send for our ten-color lithographed carpet catalogue. What you'll find in these two books will teach you something that you'll want to remember for many a day. Remember Christmas coming, and sensible people give sensible gifts which sensible people most appreciate. Something for the home is the best of all presents, and our catalogue will suggest to you what is best. Address (exactly as below) JULIUS HINES & SON, BALTIMORE, MD. Dept. 909.

### SCENES OF THE FIRST CHRISTMAS.

"The place is Bethlehem, but the Holy Family are no longer at the inn, in which there is no room for them," writes Rev. Amory H. Bradford, D. D. in the December Ladies' Home Journal, of "The First Christmas Present." "They are now in a house and by themselves. The dwellings of the poorer classes of that land and time were of primitive simplicity. The walls were of stone, often without cement or plaster; the roofs were of boughs or poles laid side by side and covered with mud or straw; the floors were of earth. They contained few rooms, if, indeed, there were more than one, and no windows such as are to be found in modern houses. The best of these buildings were hardly more sumptuous than the dugouts of the American prairies or the crofters' cottages of Scotland and Skye, but because of the dryness of the climate they were not uncomfortable. Neither walls nor floors were damp. Jesus and Mary were in such a house, and were as well provided for as most other peasant people of their time and their means.

The strangers who appeared in the streets of that little town were wise men from the East. They were guided by a mysterious star. They sought one who was "born King of the Jews." When they found Him, in true Oriental fashion they first bowed their heads to the ground in salutation, and then presented to Him gold, frankincense and myrrh. The phrase "wise men," or Magi, indicates that they came from Persia or Arabia; that probably they were followers of Zoroaster, and therefore that they were fire-worshippers. This is all that the Gospels teach us, either directly or by inference, concerning them.

It has been fully demonstrated that Ely's Cream Balm is a specific for N. S. Catarrh and cold in the head. This distinction has been achieved only as the result of continued successful use. A morbid condition of the membrane in the nasal passages can be cured by this purifying and healing treatment. Sold by druggists or it will be mailed for 50 cents by Ely Brothers, 56 Warren Street, New York. It spreads over the membrane, is absorbed and relief is immediate.

Bears the Signature of *Charles H. Pictorial*

Senator Hour has announced himself as positively opposed to the treaty which would acquire the Philippines and said he did not believe that such a treaty ought to be agreed to.

Bears the Signature of *Charles H. Pictorial*

Inquiries from the North and West are already being made at the Interior Department concerning homesteads in the newly acquired provinces. There is no public land in Porto Rico, as the Spanish government held none there, nor is there much in Cuba, but in the Philippines there is a great deal, the distribution of which, however, has not yet been considered.

Senator Daniel has this to say in reference to the Philippine question: "At the present time, I am only willing to say, so far as the Philippines are concerned, that the sovereignty of Spain in those islands must be relinquished. I think we will all be practically agreed upon that point. What lies beyond, only the future can determine. The case has not yet been made up, and unless I see the treaty and know fully all the circumstances under which it was drafted, I do not feel like committing myself to a definite policy. The fact is, that many of us may be compelled to accept a situation which we do not regard as desirable."

CONSUMPTION

### CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

(Young People's Weekly.)

Topic, December 11: The Minor Virtues and Their Importance—Phil. 3: 12, 13; 4: 8; Matt. 5: 48.

The most beautiful and perfect baby ever born to the world would not long be considered either beautiful or perfect if he were not constantly making progress. There are great possibilities within that tiny body and undeveloped brain. Little as we see in proportion to all that is taking place, almost every day our attention is called to some advance on the child's part. One of the wonderful things about life is the rapidity with which the new-comer masters the facts of the strange world in which he finds himself, and daily increases in knowledge and strength.

When we are born into God's family, our condition is very similar to that of the child who has just entered the world. We are at the beginning of things. Strength and knowledge and development and growth will come, if we follow the right course, but to start with we are ignorant and helpless. It is strange how few people seem to realize that there is anything important in the Christian life beyond the new birth. As a matter of fact there should be as great a difference between the new convert and the experienced Christian, as between the new-born babe and the man in his prime.

Faith in the Lord Jesus is the magnificent foundation on which he can rear an imposing temple, adorned with everything which can contribute to its beauty. But it must be admitted that instead of this, some build low, unsightly structures, bare and unlovely. "He is all right Godward," a minister once said of a certain Christian, "but manward he is a little twisted." Which seems to be another way of saying that the foundation could not be improved upon, but that the superstructure was unsightly and unsafe.

"All things are yours," is a statement which furnishes food for thought. There is nothing which can increase the strength of our minds and hearts, which can add a single beauty or charm to our character, which can give our influence a longer reach or a firmer grip, after which we should not strive. The minor virtues, the traits which make attractive many who are not Christians, and which become so irresistible when backed by principle, must be cultivated if our natures are to blossom out in the beauty of Christlikeness.

The saying of Angelo that trifles make perfection, but that perfection is no trifle, has lost something of its force perhaps, through being so frequently quoted, yet nothing has ever been said which better expressed a very vital truth. You cannot take courtesy and tact and sympathy and combine them in such a way as to make a noble character. You must start with something more substantial—faith in God and love to men. But on the other hand, perfection is dependent on these lesser things. After the flawless block of marble is purchased, there must be a vast amount of effort and skill expended; the chisel must chip away the sharp angles and rough edges, bringing out graceful curves instead, before the finished image will stand forth perfect and beautiful.

It is reported that Prince George of Greece and Princess Victoria of Wales are engaged to be married.



**THE EXCELLENCE OF SYRUP OF FIGS** is due not only to the originality and simplicity of the combination, but also to the care and skill with which it is manufactured by scientific processes known to the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. only, and we wish to impress upon all the importance of purchasing the true and original remedy. As the genuine Syrup of Figs is manufactured by the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. only, a knowledge of that fact will assist one in avoiding the worthless imitations manufactured by other parties. The high standing of the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. with the medical profession, and the satisfaction which the genuine Syrup of Figs has given to millions of families, makes the name of the Company a guaranty of the excellence of its remedy. It is far in advance of all other laxatives, as it acts on the kidneys, liver and bowels without irritating or weakening them, and it does not grip or nauseate. In order to get its beneficial effects, please remember the name of the Company—**CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.**

### A STROKE OF LUCK.

Stern old Deacon Wade was plowing in the garden, close by the road, on the morning when the idea came to him that it would be a good plan for him to get married again.

The way in which the idea came to him was this: Just as he reached the row nearest the road, some one said:

"Good morning, Deacon Wade," in a voice that made him think of blackbirds and bobolinks, and he looked up, to see Rhoda Mason smiling over the fence at him.

"Good morning, good morning," responded the deacon, delightedly. "Beautiful morning, isn't it?"

"Charming," answered Rhoda. "How's Mrs. Wheelock? Well, I suppose?"

"She's gone to her son's again," answered the deacon. "She went yesterday—some of the children's sick, I believe—so Bob and I are keeping house alone. I'm getting about tired of it, so's Bob. He was telling me this morning that he thought it would be a good idea for one of us to hunt up a new housekeeper; and I don't know but what he was right."

Pretty Rhoda's face got as rosy as the blossoms on the damask rose bush by the gate. The deacon wondered why he had never noticed how pretty she was before.

"I see you've got a nice crop of strawberries," said Rhoda, pretending to be greatly interested in the long rows of ripening fruit. "Ours are a failure this year. Mother said she didn't believe we'd have enough for a shortcake."

"I want to know!" exclaimed the deacon. "That's too bad, I declare. We'll have more than we can use, and I'll bring you over some just as soon as they're ripe enough to pick."

"Thank you ever so much," responded Rhoda. "I know mother'll be glad to get them. But I must be going, or I won't get back by dinner time," and she went away, leaving the deacon with a new idea in his head.

"I suppose folks would say it was foolish for an old fellow like me to marry a young girl like Rhoda," he said to himself, as he turned back on the next row of sweet corn. "But other men, older than I am, marry young wives; so why shouldn't I?—We need a good housekeeper here. It's getting so we can't depend on Mrs. Wheelock. She's gone half the time, and we're likely to lose her altogether almost any time."

The more the deacon thought of it the more in earnest he got. On Saturday he picked a basket of luscious strawberries, and that afternoon he took them over to the Mason homestead.

"I declare, if I ain't rather excited," said the deacon, as he neared Rhoda's home, and felt his heart beat quick and hard. I thought I'd got over that years ago. If I feel this way now, how'll I feel when I get there? Of course, I'm not going to propose to her right away. I'll just kind o' hint at matters and things, enough to set her thinking. Tain't best to be in too great a hurry about such things."

Rhoda was sitting on the front porch, shelling peas. Pretty as she had looked that morning in the roadside, she looked far prettier to-day, the deacon thought.

"Oh, you've brought those berries you promised us, haven't you," cried Rhoda. "It's so kind of you. Mother was delighted when I told her what you was going to do. I'm sorry she isn't at home this afternoon. She went to call on Mrs. Perkins—she's sick, you know. But come in and sit down, and maybe she'll be back before you go. I hope she will, for I know she'll be real disappointed to miss your visit."

"Oh, that's nothing," said the deacon.

"I—I can come again, you know."

"I wish you would," said Rhoda. "Mother was saying that you weren't very neighborly. She didn't remember when you had been here."

"I—I want to see your mother and have a good long talk with her about an idea I've got," said the deacon, trying and by. "She knows how much we need a housekeeper, and I always thought her a very sensible woman, and I'm sure she'd think just as I do about—about this idea of mine. At least, I hope so. I suppose she'd feel like to carry on the housework on a place like this alone, wouldn't she? She seems strong and healthy as ever."

"Oh, yes, mother'd manage that all right," answered Rhoda. "She often tells me she don't need any of my help."

"She's got the idea, plain enough," thought the deacon, in great delight, as Rhoda said that. "I'm getting along. She's the most sensible girl I ever saw. I wonder how much further



I'd better go now! Maybe I'd better wait, just as I'd made up my mind to, and give her time to talk it over with her mother before I came right out with the question. I will," and it was well that he came to this decision, and adhered to it, as he congratulated himself a few days later.

The deacon might have stayed until Mrs. Mason's retort, but a young girl friend of Rhoda's came, and that put an end to his visit.

"You can talk with your mother and see what she thinks about what I've been saying," he said, as he took his departure. "Let me know the first chance you have."

The next Wednesday evening Robt. Wade was away from home. About one o'clock his father heard him come in.

"I wouldn't wonder if Robt. got an idea of sparking somebody," thought the deacon. "Maybe it's like the measles—when it gets started into the family, they all have it," and he chuckled to think his son had caught the disease from him. "Well, Bob's a good boy, and I hope he'll do well in getting a wife, as I shall if I get Rhoda Mason."

The next morning Bob looked very wise as he sat down to breakfast opposite his father.

"I've got a message for you," he said, by and by, when the housekeeper had left the room. "I was over to the Mason place, and when I came away Rhoda told me to tell you that if you wanted to know what her mother thought about your housekeeping idea you'd better come over and talk with her about it. I was quite surprised to find out you'd got matrimonial ideas in your head, but I want to say that I think the plan a most sensible one. Mrs. Mason would make you a tiptop housekeeper, and—if you'll take the mother I'll take the daughter. Indeed, I've made an arrangement to that effect. Rhoda and I came to a satisfactory understanding last night."

It was well for the deacon that the housekeeper came in just at this juncture. Robt. went out, and he betook himself to his room to collect his bewildered senses.

"I begin to understand it," he told himself, by and by. "I've come dreadfully near making a fool of myself. I guess I did make a fool of myself, all right enough; but what I mean is, I came dreadfully near being caught at it. But by the greatest stroke of luck that ever happened to me I haven't been caught. I see how it is, Robt. is going to marry Rhoda, and he's been sparking for her all along, and she thinks it was her mother I had in view for a housekeeper. And as luck would have it, I didn't say anything that'll give me away, if—if I carry out the deception and marry Rhoda's mother. If I don't they'll mistrust something. It seems as if fate had something to do with it. I never thought of such a thing, but I'm forced right into it, so to speak. I can't help myself. And, come to think of it, it's the proper thing to do. It would have been a foolish

thing for an old man like me to marry a young girl like Rhoda. Ain't it lucky now, that I didn't say any more that day! I stopped just at the right time and place. It seems she's told her mother what I said, and—I'm to come over and talk to her about it. I will."

When Deacon Wade made up his mind to anything he was prompt to act. Saturday afternoon saw him setting out for the Mason homestead with another basket of strawberries. The widow was at home this time, and she welcomed him with a blush that made her look almost as pretty as her daughter.

"Take a seat out on the porch, deacon, where it's cool," said the widow. "And Ill sit here and hull the berries while we rest. Robt's coming over by and by, Rhoda said, and both of you must stay to tea. I remember how fond you use to be of shortcake, and we'll have one that'll make you think of old times."

"Robert," said the deacon, as his son came up the path, about five o'clock, "I want to exchange congratulations with you. You've got the promise of the daughter, and I've got the promise of the mother. I think both of us deserve congratulations. We're in luck my boy."

"That's about the way I look at it," said Robert, giving the blushing Mrs. Mason a rousing kiss. Just then Rhoda appeared on the scene to announce that tea was ready, and the deacon stepped up to her and kissed her in a most fatherly manner, and then put her hand in Robert's and said:

"Bless you, my children," in a most approved stage fashion.

"But wasn't it lucky, though, to get off so easy," he said to himself, more than once, after that, as he thought over his narrow escape. It makes me shiver to think how near I came to being found out for an old fool. But, by the greatest stroke of luck I ever had, I came out of the scrape all right, and got just the kind of a wife that I ought to have. I shall always believe in luck after this."

### AN IMPORTANT DIFFERENCE.

To make it apparent to thousands, who think themselves ill, that they are not afflicted with any disease, but that the system simply needs cleansing, is to bring comfort home to their hearts, as a positive condition is easily cured by using Syrup of Figs. Manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co., only, and sold by all druggists.

The throne-room of the Sultan at Constantinople is a gorgeous sight. The gilding is unequalled by any other building in Europe, and from the ceiling hangs a superb Venetian chandelier, the two hundred lights of which make a gleam like that of a veritable sun. At each of the four corners of the room tall chandelabra in becarat glass are placed, and the throne is a huge seat covered with red velvet and having arms and back of pure gold.

## S. S. Cures Sores and Ulcers

It Matters Not How Obstinate, or What Other Remedies Have Failed.

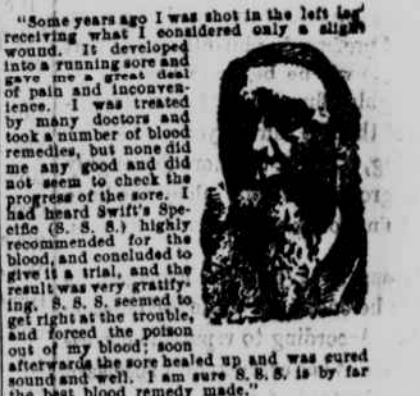
Obstinate sores and ulcers, which refuse to heal under ordinary treatment, soon become chronic and deep-seated, and lead to conditions most serious. They are caused in different ways, but in every case the blood is involved, and no amount of local treatment can have any effect. The poison must be eliminated from the blood before a cure can be had.

### THROWN FROM A HORSE.

Mr. H. Kahn, of Marion, Kansas, writes: "About three years ago my granddaughter, Bertha Whitwood, was thrown from a horse, receiving a wound of the scalp. Though under the treatment of physicians for several months, the wound remained about the same, until it finally became very angry-looking, and broke out into a running sore. This soon spread to other parts of the scalp and ran down the side of the neck, increasing in severity and becoming fully dangerous. She was then placed under the care of the faculty of a well-known hospital, but even the treatment she received there failed to arrest the terrible sore. Reading of the many cures of blood troubles effected by S. S. S., we decided to try it, and it relieved her promptly. In a few months she was entirely cured, and scarcely a mark now remains where the disease had fallen away."

### A GUNSHOT WOUND.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY—Take Laxative Broom Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure 50c. The genuine has L. B. Q. on each tablet.



It matters not how they are acquired or what treatment has failed, S. S. S. will cure the most obstinate, deep-seated sore or ulcer. It is useless to expect local treatment of sores, because they can not reach the real cause of the trouble, which is the blood. S. S. S. drives out every trace of impurity in the blood, and in this way cures permanently the worst cases. If the only blood remedy guaranteed

### Purely Vegetable.

and contains not a particle of potash, mercury, or other mineral. S. S. S. cures Contagious Blood Poison, Scrofula, Cancer, Catarrh, Eczema, Rheumatism, Sores, Ulcers, Boils, or any other blood trouble. Valuable books on these diseases will be mailed free to any address, by the Swift Special Company, Atlanta, Georgia.